

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 NEA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NASA-02
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-02 DOE-15 CEQ-01
OES-07 SS-15 ICA-20 DLOS-09 /162 W
-----050442 032031Z /62

R 021155Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1976
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMCONSUL MADRAS
USLO PEKING
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 8641

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM IN
SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES DISARMAMENT

1. ADDRESSING THE INDIAN FEDERATION OF UN ASSOCIATIONS IN CHANDIGARH JUNE 1, FOREIGN MINISTER VAJPAYEE REGRETTE THAT THE WORLD SPENT MORE FOR ARMS THAN FOR HEALTH, EDUCATION AND NUTRITION FOR THE POOREST TWO-THIRDS OF HUMANITY, AND HE CALLED ON THE UN SSOD TO PRODUCE A DEFINITE PROGRAM OF ACTION FOR WORLD DISARMAMENT. FIXING THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROGRESS TOWARD DISARMAMENT ON THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES -- PARTICULARLY THE "OVER-ARMED" ONES -- VAJPAYEE STATED THAT IF THEY SET THE PACE, OTHER STATES WOULD FOLLOW. HE THOUGHT IT IRONIC THAT THE UN PAYS MORE ATTENTION TO PEACE-KEEPING, DEVELOPMENT AND OUTER
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SPACE THAN TO DISARMAMENT.

2. REMINDING HIS AUDIENCE OF INDIA'S "UNCONDITIONAL" RENUNCIATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, VAJPAYEE URGED "THE RENUNCIATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY ALL NATIONS AND A DECLARATION THAT THE POSSESSION AND USE OF SUCH NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND OTHER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION IS (SIC)

A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY." HE ALSO ATTACKED THE
"DISCRIMINATORY" NPT AND PROPOSALS FOR "INEQUITABLE"
AND "IMPRACTICABLE" NUCLEAR-WEAPONS-FREE ZONES COMPRISING
LESS THAN A "WHOLE GEOGRAPHIC ENTITY" -- CLEARLY
REFERRING TO PAKISTAN'S PROPOSED SOUTH ASIA NUCLEAR
WEAPONS FREE ZONE. REGARDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE
ZONES IS GENERAL, VAJPAYEE NOTED THAT INDIA DID NOT LIKE
"THE USE THAT SOME MAY WANT TO MAKE OF THIS NOBLE IDEA
TO CAST ASPERSIONS ON US OR ON OUR INTENTIONS," --
ANOTHER OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO PAKISTAN. HE SUGGESTED
THAT IF ALL COUNTRIES WERE TO GIVE UP THE DEVELOPMENT
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, THERE WOULD BE NO NEED TO "PARCEL
OUT" SUCH ZONES.

3. VAJPAYEE POINTED TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' NEED
FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AND STATED THAT NUCLEAR
PROLIFERATION SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH DISSEMINATION
OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. HE ALSO
SAW NEED FOR A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT, TO PUT TO CONSTRUCTIVE USE FOR THE BENEFIT
OF THE POOR SOME OF THE RESOURCES HERETOFORE SPENT ON
ARMS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISARMAMENT, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NEWDE08641
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780233-0174
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806102/aaaadkct.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6820777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2144861
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES DISARMAMENT
TAGS: PARM, IN, (VAJPAYEE, ATAL BIHARI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6820777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014